

REMARKS

Election/Restriction

This paper is filed in response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 22, 2005. The Examiner is of the opinion that two distinct inventions are claimed in the instant application and requires Applicant to elect a single group of claims identified by the Examiner for prosecution on the merits. Specifically, the Examiner has divided the claims into the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1 – 15, directed to processes; and
- Group II: Claims 16 – 27, directed to apparatus.

Applicant hereby elects Group II, Claims 16 – 27, directed to a system for producing Bisphenol-A, with traverse, and without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue the remaining non-elected claims in one or more subsequent divisional applications.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has also amended certain of the claims to more particularly point out the subject matter of the present invention. Specifically, Applicant has amended independent claims 16, 22 and 25 to recite that adduct crystallization does not take place. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification and figures, for example at page 21, lines 18-21. Claim 18 is amended to correct misspelling of the term "phenol."

Amendments to the Specification

Applicant has amended Table 3 to correct a typographical error. The decimal point was accidentally put in the wrong place for the acetone and water wt. percentages for case numbers 3.6 to 3.9. The values are weight percentages, and are now correctly shown. No new matter is added by this amendment.

Appl. No. 10/661,169
Amdt. dated April 22, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 22, 2005

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. If any matters can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. A-71202/MSS (469332-20)).

Respectfully submitted,

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